

App. No.: 10/613,911  
Atty. Doc. No.: D03041

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for providing a secure time signal from a time source to a time requestor over a digital network, the method comprising:
  - sending a requestor identification to an authentication server;
  - receiving a public key from the authentication server;
  - sending a request for a time server ticket;
  - receiving the request for the time server ticket;
  - using the time server ticket to request the secure time signal wherein the time server ticket includes an identification of the requestor and a session key for transferring the secure time signal.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the time server ticket is obtained from a key distribution center.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the time server ticket is obtained from an authentication server.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the time server ticket is obtained from a ticket granting-server.

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6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
- transferring the time server ticket with a request for a secure time signal to a secure time server; and
  - receiving the secure time signal from the secure time server.
7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the request includes a request message, the method further comprising:
- generating a nonce to be included in the request message;
  - including a session key for the secure time server in the request message; and
  - including a keyed checksum over the request message.
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the secure time signal includes a reply message, the method further comprising
- including the nonce copied from the request in the reply message; and
  - including a keyed checksum over the reply message.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of receiving a secure time signal includes the following substeps:
- matching the nonce in the reply message with the corresponding nonce in the request message; and
  - confirming the keyed checksum.

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10. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising  
Using the secure time signal to update a clock value.

11-13. (Canceled)